

HOUSE No. 1959

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:
Brian P. Wallace

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:
An Act regulating the reporting of opioid overdoses.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Brian P. Wallace	4th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2271 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine
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AN ACT REGULATING THE REPORTING OF OPIOID OVERDOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. AN ACT Regulating the reporting of opioid overdoses
2 Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the
3 following section after section 12G:
4 “SECTION 12G½ . Every physician attending or treating a case of heroin or other opioid overdose shall report such
5 case to the department of public health for public health purposes within twenty-four hours. Whenever any such
6 case is treated in a hospital, clinic or other institution, the administrator, manager, or other person in charge thereof
7 shall report such case to the commissioner of public health within twenty-four hours. The reports made pursuant to
8 this section shall not include individual identifying information and may include the following demographic
9 characteristics as they pertain to the patient: city, Zip Code + 4 Code, age, gender, race and drug involved; shall be
10 confidential; and shall not be a public record as defined by Section 7 of Chapter 4. The department of public health
11 shall promulgate regulations to carry out the provisions of this section. Whoever violates any provision of this
12 section shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars or more than one hundred dollars.”